GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7927
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2000
FUNDS FOR NATURAL CALAMITIES
PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to non-implementation of welfare projects drought and famine like conditions prevail in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for not releasing the funds sanctioned by the Planning Commission;

(c) the projects that were held up for want of funds and the amount of money remained unspent during the last three years; and

(d) whether the Government propose to fix the responsibility in regard to allocation of funds?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a)to(d) Assistance is provided to the States under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF)every year for undertaking immediate relief measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. The Department of Land Resources is reported to be implementingArea Development Programme, namely, Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) andDesert Development Programme (DDP). According to them, 947 blocks of 164 districts in 13 States have been identified for coverage under DPAP and 277 blocks of 40 districts in 7 States have been identified for coverage under DDP at present. 8335projects under DPAP and 3694 projects under DDP are at various stages ofimplementation. No project was held up by them for want of funds and release of funds was reportedly not withheld if the financial progress of the project satisfied the financial norms.